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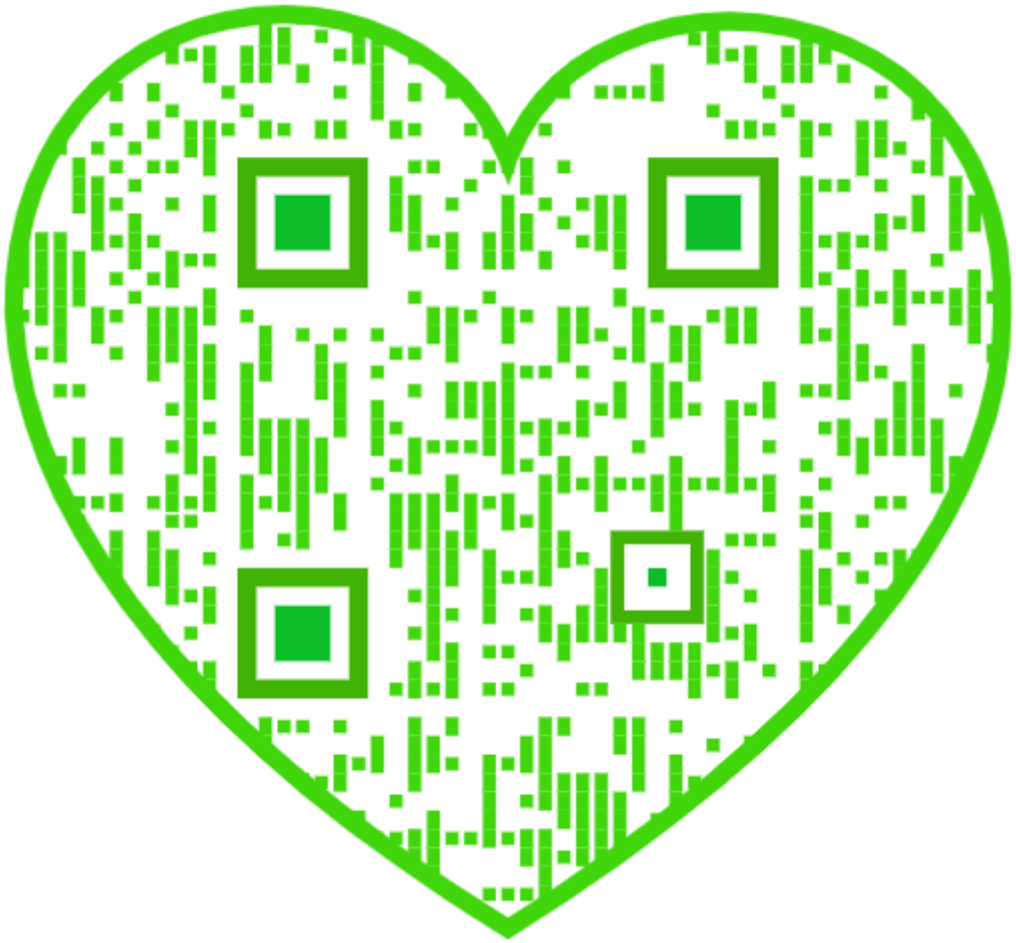

GARMENT DRAFTING BY SIMPLE RULE METHOD

GARMENT DRAFTING BY SIMPLE RULE METHOD

A Student's Manual for

Home and School Garment Cutting,

BY

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PREFACE.

My aim in publishing this little book is:

First—to give to the schools a simple and inexpensive method of pattern drafting which embodies the educational through the practical medium, and which will save time by dispensing with much of the note book work.

Second—to benefit the woman in the home who would make her own patterns if she could do so without the use of some expensive set system or course of instruction.

After three years of steady use in my work, during which time I have made a few slight changes in the original draft, and the experience of others in both home and school work, I do not hesitate to say that properly worked out this manual will meet both demands. Should it be helpful to others, though in smaller measure than it has proved to me in my work, the time spent in its preparation will be fully compensated.

M. M. G.

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INTRODUCTION.

The instructions contained in this book are as simple and concise as possible, the intention being merely to do away with the necessity of dictating notes on drafting, necessarily mechanical in themselves, for certain set rules must be followed in making a pattern.

For class work the whole general plan should be carefully developed by the inductive method before the student sees a printed line or hears a dictation, otherwise an injury is done rather than benefit derived, from an educational standpoint. If the instructor has each lesson thoroughly in mind, she will find it quite possible to draw the whole general plan from her class without dictating at all, and it is only such teaching the author advises in this work, because we know that the inductive method is the only true method to follow in the schoolroom if best results are to be obtained.

By the woman in the home, who simply needs the patterns from a practical point of view, the

instructions will be easily understood, and plain pattern-making made easy.

The instructions are all for plain patterns, but it is a very simple matter, after a little thought and and practice, to develop more elaborate garments from the same plain patterns. The additions for tucks, plaits, etc., as well as changes in general form, and the drawing of free-hand curves are of great value in studying correct lines, hence the educational through the practical medium.

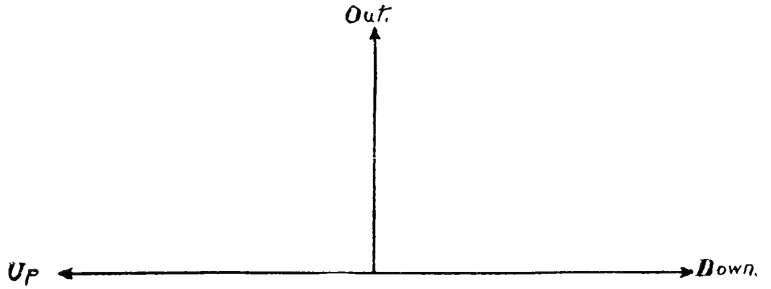
The only equipment necessary for making these drafts is drafting paper (the yard-wide, light-weight quality, about 6 cents per pound, is the best for this purpose), a yard rule, 60-inch tape line, and pencil.

The plan for making the drafts is based entirely upon the right angle, made up of two lines of unequal lengths, the *long line* representing all length measures, and the *short line* the width measures. The location of the right angle on the drafting paper must be carefully observed. A piece of drafting paper is laid lengthwise on the table, the right angle drafted at the *right-hand* end. The directions *down*, *out* and *up*, constantly used in the instructions, must be kept clearly in mind:

Down is located toward the right hand or lower part of pattern, following the *long line*, or length.

Out is located directly away from the person, either on or parallel with the *short line.*

Up is toward the left hand, or upper part of pattern.



A series of numbered dots is used to mark the important points of the pattern according to the measure taken; these dots are then connected by either straight lines or curves. As soon as the student becomes a little familiar with the drafts the numbers are omitted, and all connections are made without reference to the notes. Within a reasonable length of time the instructor should insist upon drafts being made without any reference to instruction book, thus again deriving a two-fold value.

Add seams to pattern, using the yard rule for drafting all straight seam lines. A much more accurate seam will be made in this way. Seams along curved lines should be dotted.

The importance of accurate measures cannot be too strongly emphasized. A well-fitting pattern cannot result from incorrect measures. They should be taken very carefully in the first place and then verified until there can be no doubt about the correctness. If the measures are true to the figure the pattern will fit perfectly.

A few set measures are given in some of the drafts. These are correct for the average adult, but in drafting patterns for children or unusually disproportionate forms, judgment must be exercised in the use of these measures.

Seams should be traced and basted with the greatest care.

LESSONS IN

GARMENT DRAFTING.

General Instructions for Skirt Drafting.

All skirt measures should be taken to the floor, then any desired deduction made, or length added.

After each part of pattern is drafted, test all measures with a tape line.

Carefully mark each part of pattern with the name of the gore; also *front* (or warp) side.

In cutting out patterns, allow ½-inch seams on sides. Cut top and bottom on draft lines.

One-half the pattern only is cut—one-half front gore, one side gore and one back gore.

There should be no seam down the center of front gore, hence the pattern must be placed on cloth folded lengthwise of warp, front side of pattern following fold of goods.

In placing side and back gore patterns on material, see that front of each pattern follows warp thread, or length of cloth. *This is very important.* They may be cut singly or on doubled cloth, whichever cuts to better advantage.

Width of gores at bottom depends upon height and size of person for whom skirt is made; also, prevailing style.

Instructions for Basting.

To avoid mistakes, leave each part of pattern pinned to material until ready to baste. *Never* notch gores.

First, pin warp side of side gores to front gore, beginning at top. Always baste with *bias* part uppermost, to avoid fulling straight edges. Fasten thread firmly at top and baste with small stitches, carefully following seam line.

Follow same instructions for back gore. Leave 8 or 10 inches open at upper part of center back for placket opening. It is well to stay the bias back seam, either with double stitching or straight strip of cloth, to avaid stretching.

Underskirt Dratt.

Measures:

WAIST: Easy measure around smallest part of waist.

FRONT: From waist line to floor.

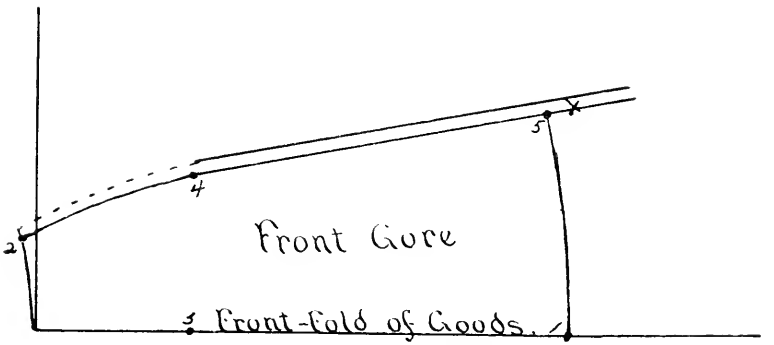
SIDE: Over fullest part of hip to floor. Take this measure over both hips, and use the longer one.

BACK: From waist line to floor.

Widths at Bottom of Gores for 3-yard Skirt:

FRONT GORE, 12 inches wide.
SIDE " 19 " "
BACK " 23 " "

FRONT GORE DRAFT.



a. Use straight edge of paper for *long line*. Near top of paper draw a *short line* at right angles to *long line*. Measure *down* from angle on *long line* FRONT length of skirt and place dot 1

b. *Up* from angle ½-inch, and one-sixth WAIST measure *out*, place dot 2

c. *Down* from angle 6 inches, place dot 3

d. *Out* from 3, 2 inches more than one-sixth WAIST measure, place dot 4

e. *Out* from 1 mark desired width of front gore with small cross.

f. Connect 4 and cross with straight line.

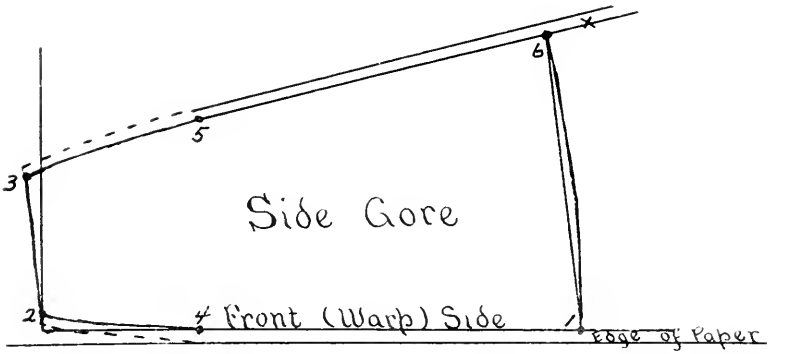
g. " 2 and 4 with curved line.

h. " angle and 2 with curved line.

i. Measure FRONT length of skirt on line extending from 2 to cross, and place dot 5

j. Connect 1 and 5 with a curved line.

SIDE GORE DRAFT.



Beginning at left-hand end of paper, draw a right angle same as for front gore, except the *long line* is placed ½-inch from edge to allow for seam.

a. *Down* from angle FRONT length, place dot 1

b. *Out* from angle ½-inch, place dot 2

c. *Up* from angle ¾ inch, and ¼ WAIST measure *out*, place dot 3

d. *Down* from angle 6 inches, place dot 4

e. *Out* from 4, 3 inches more than ¼ WAIST measure, place dot 5

f. *Out* from 1 mark desired width of side gore with small cross.

g. Connect 5 and cross with straight line.

h. " 3 " 5 with curved line.

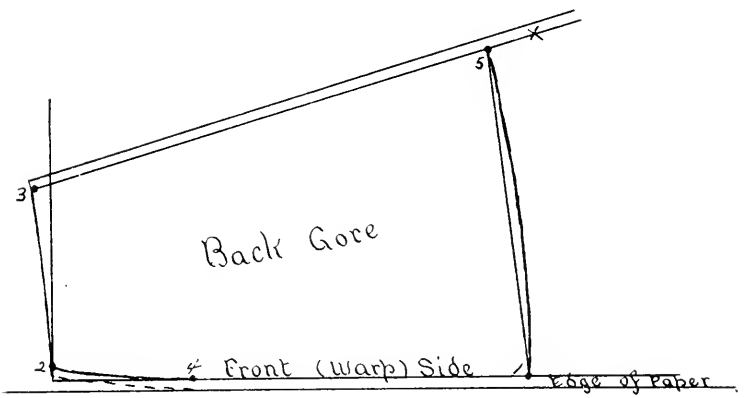
i. " 2 " 3 " " "

j. " 2 " 4 " " "

k. Measure SIDE length on line extending from 3 to cross, and place dot 6

l. Connect 1 and 6 with curved line.

BACK GORE DRAFT.



Draft right angle, same as for side gore.

a. *Down* from angle SIDE length, place dot 1

b. *Out* from angle ½-inch, place dot 2

c. 1 inch *up* from 2, and ⅓ WAIST measure *out*, place dot 3

d. *Down* from angle 6 inches, place dot 4

e. *Out* from 1 mark desired width of back gore with small cross.

f. Connect 3 and cross with straight line.

g. " 2 " 3 with curved line.

h. " 2 " 4 " " "

i. Measure BACK length on the line extending from 3 to cross, and place dot 5

j. Connect 1 and 5 with curved line.

General Instructions for Gored Skirt Draft.

The same general principles apply to the gored skirt draft as to the underskirt, except that more measures must be taken. The WAIST and HIP measures are subdivided into as many gores as desired, and are known by the names FRONT WAIST, FRONT HIP, SIDE WAIST, SIDE HIP, etc., meaning the width of each gore at the waist or hip, as the case may be. Tables on a following page give proportionate WAIST subdivisions for each of the 7 or 9 gores of a skirt, ranging from waist measures 18 inches to 36 inches. These subdivisions may be easily rearranged to suit changing styles; that is, a plait added to either side of a front gore may produce an unbecoming width at waist line, hence the pattern should be cut narrower, the deduction *added* to side gores.

One-half the pattern only is cut—one-half the front gore, one each of the side gores, and one back gore.

Determine the width of each gore at the *hip* line in the following manner:

FRONT HIP is 1¼-inch more than FRONT WAIST.

BACK HIP is 1¾-inch more than BACK WAIST.

Add FRONT HIP and BACK HIP; deduct this from one-half HIP measure; divide this number into equal parts and it will give the HIP measure for each of the side gores. Do not use any fraction smaller than ¼-inch.

A diagram, similar to the following, should be made before beginning to draft in order to avoid errors:

	Front	1st Side	2d Side	Back
WAIST—24	2	4	4	2
HIP— 40	2¼	7	7	3¾

Foundation skirt lines are the same, no matter what the prevailing style. A shirred, plaited, flared or tucked skirt may be developed from a plain gored skirt pattern by marking extra width on the cloth before cutting. Use tailor's chalk or colored pencil.

Table of Waist Subdivisions for 7-gored Skirt.

WAIST	FRONT	1ST SIDE	2D SIDE	BACK
18	1¾	3	3	1¼
19	1¾	3¼	3¼	1¼
20	2	3¼	3¼	1½
21	2	3¼	3¼	1¾
22	2	3½	3½	1¾
23	2	3¾	3¾	1¾
24	2	4	4	2
25	2	4¼	4¼	2
26	2¼	4¼	4¼	2¼
27	2¼	4½	4½	2¼
28	2¼	4¾	4¾	2¼
29	2¼	4¾	4¾	2½
30	2¾	4¾	4¾	2¾
31	2¾	5	5	2¾
32	2¾	5¼	5¼	2¾
33	3	5¼	5¼	3
34	3	5½	5½	3
35	3	5¾	5¾	3
36	3¼	5¾	5¾	3¼

Widths at bottom for 7-gored skirt:

Front gore..... 8 inches
1st side " ....16 "
2d " " .....21 "
Back " .....23 "
} 3½ yard skirt.

Front gore..... 9 inches
1st side " .....18 "
2d " " ....21 "
Back " .....25 "
} 4 yard skirt.

Table of Waist Subdivisions for 9-gored Skirt.

WAIST	FRONT	1ST SIDE	2D SIDE	3D SIDE	BACK
18	1½	2¼	2¼	2¼	1½
19	1½	2½	2½	2½	1½
20	2	2½	2½	2½	1½
21	2	2¾	2¾	2¾	1½
22	2	2¾	2¾	2¾	1½
23	2	2¾	2¾	2¾	2
24	2	3	3	3	2
25	2	3	3	3	2¼
26	2	3¼	3¼	3¼	2¼
27	2¼	3¼	3¼	3¼	2¼
28	2¼	3½	3½	3½	2¼
29	2¼	3½	3½	3½	2½
30	2¼	3¾	3¾	3¾	2½
31	2½	3¾	3¾	3¾	2½
32	2½	4	4	4	2¾
33	2½	4	4	4	2¾
34	2½	4¼	4¼	4¼	2¾
35	2¾	4¼	4¼	4¼	2¾
36	2¾	4½	4½	4½	2¾

Measures:

WAIST: Smooth measure around smallest part of waist. Take slightly easier measure for 9-gored pattern than for 7-gored.

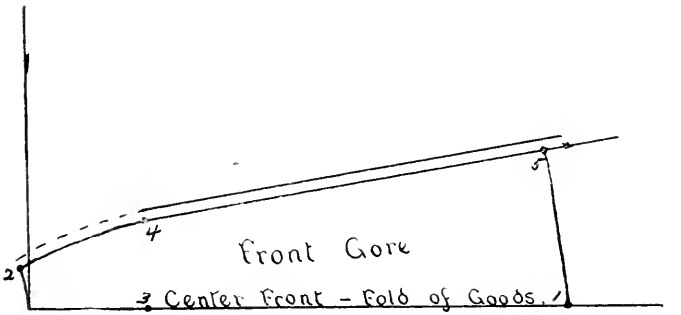
HIP: Smooth measure around largest part of hips.

FRONT: From waist line to floor.

SIDE: From waist line over fullest part of hip to floor. Take this measure over both hips and use the longer one if there is any difference, which is often the case.

BACK: From waist line to floor.

FRONT GORE DRAFT.



a. Use edge of paper for *long line*. Near top of paper draw a *short line* at right angles to *long line*. Measure *down* from angle FRONT length, and place dot 1

b. *Up* from angle ¼-inch, and FRONT WAIST *out*, place dot 2

c. *Down* from angle 6 inches, place dot 3

d. *Out* from 3, FRONT HIP, place dot 4

e. *Out* from 1 mark desired width of front gore with small cross.

f. Connect 4 and cross with a straight line.

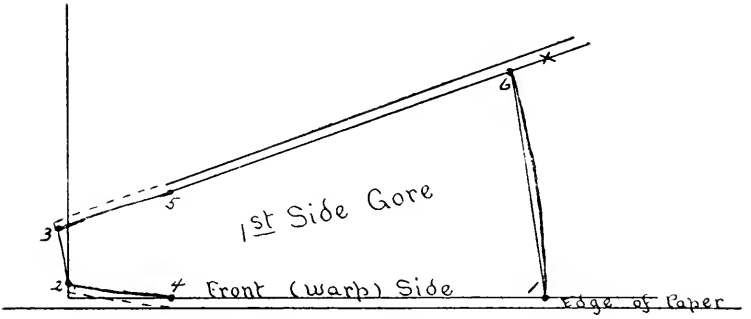
g. " 2 " 4 with a curved line.

h. " angle and 2 " " "

i. Measure FRONT length on line extending from 2 to cross, and place dot 5

j. Connect 1 and 5 with a curved line (it is much easier to sketch this curve if 1 and 5 are first connected by a straight line).

FIRST SIDE GORE DRAFT.



a. Draw a *long line* ½-inch from edge of paper. *Out*, near top of paper, draw a *short line* at right angles to *long line*. *Down* from angle FRONT length, place dot 1

b. *Out* from angle ½-inch, place dot 2

c. *Up* from angle ½-inch, and SIDE WAIST *out*, place dot 3

d. *Down* from angle 6 inches, place dot 4

e. *Out* from 4, SIDE HIP, place dot 5

f. *Out* from 1 mark desired width of first side gore with small cross.

g. Connect 5 and cross with straight line.

h. " 3 " 5 with curved line.

i. " 2 " 3 " " "

j. " 2 " 4 " " "

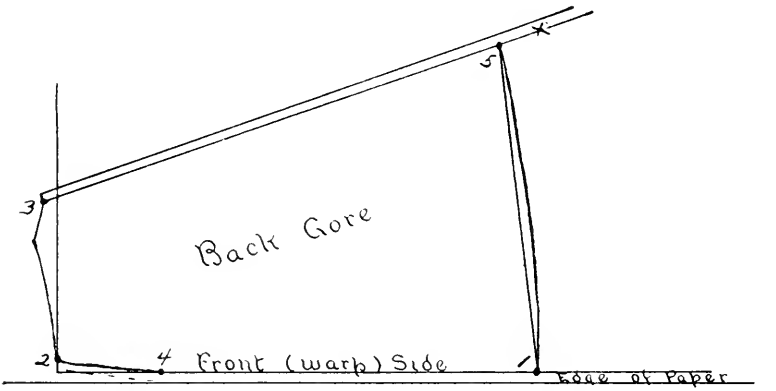
k. On the line extending from 3 to cross measure SIDE LENGTH, and place dot 6

l. Connect 1 and 6 with a curved line.

SECOND SIDE GORE DRAFT.

Second side gore draft is usually cut same as first side gore, except that more width is given at the bottom, and *both* lengths of gore are SIDE lengths.

BACK GORE DRAFT.



a. Draft a right angle same as for side gore drafts. *Down* from angle SIDE length, place dot 1

b. *Out* from angle ½-inch, place dot 2

c. 1½-inch *up* from angle and 7 or 8 inches *out*, place dot 3
(Any width desired may be used here.)

d. *Down* from angle 6 inches, place dot 4

e. *Out* from 1 mark desired width of back gore with small cross.

f. Connect 3 and cross with a straight line.

g. Draw a line curving slightly *up* from 2 and *down* to 3 (this point is cut merely for safety in fitting skirt. After plaits are laid to fit figure, the cloth should be carefully cut to waist line).

h. Connect 2 and 4 with a curved line.

i. On the line extending from 3 to cross measure BACK length, and place dot.....5

j. Connect 1 and 5 with curved line.

General Instructions for Drafting Drawers.

In cutting out pattern, follow outside line while paper remains folded. For front of pattern, cut on single paper, following the line from 1 through 5 to 4. Shorten pattern to any length desired.

In laying pattern on material, be sure that length follows *warp* thread.

If the waist line is to be finished with a yoke, cut the upper part down the width of the yoke.

Measures:

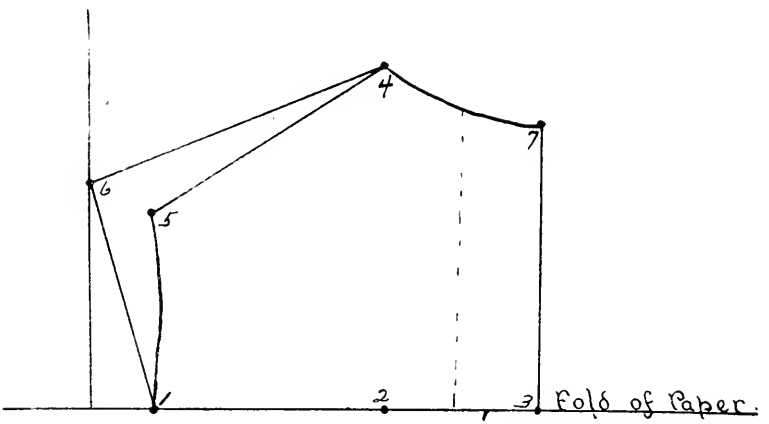
WAIST: Close measure around waist.

HIP: Close measure around fullest part of hips.

SIDE LENGTH: From waist line at side to bend of knee.

KNEE: Width desired at knee, usually from 12 inches to 15 inches.

DRAWERS DRAFT.



a. Fold 1½ yards of drafting paper crosswise, using fold for *long line*. Draw a short line at right angles to fold near left of paper. *Down* on fold from angle, 3 inches, place dot 1

b. *Down* from 1, 1 inch more than one-half SIDE LENGTH, place dot 2

c. *Down* from 1 the whole SIDE LENGTH, place dot 3

d. *Out* from 2, 2 inches less than one-half HIP measure, place dot 4

e. *Out* from 1, 3 inches less than one-half WAIST measure, place dot 5

f. *Out* on *short line* one-half WAIST measure, place dot 6

g. *Out* from 3 the KNEE measure, place dot . . . 7

h. Connect 1 and 6 with a straight line.

i. " 6 " 4 " " "

j. " 4 " 7 " curved "

k. " 3 " 7 " straight "

l. " 1 " 5 " curved "

m. " 5 " 4 " straight "

General Instructions for Shirtwaist Draft.

DRAFTING.

One-half the pattern, one-half front and one-half back, is drafted to the lines of the figure, and all extra fullness must be provided for when cutting out waist.

CUTTING.

1 inch seams should be allowed on pattern on shoulder and under arm. Balance of pattern is cut on draft lines. The lines down the center of front and back represent center of plait and center of back, hence no seams are necessary.

If shirtwaist is to open in front, take off two lengths of cloth. Make center plait along one straight edge. If it is to be a plaited or tucked waist, the plaits or tucks are put in *before* pattern is placed. If more fullness is desired than pattern and plaits provide, the cloth may be drawn under from back of pattern *after* it has been pinned along front, neck and shoulder, but never change the shape at neck curve and shoulder. This will spoil the fit of the waist.

The center plait along the other half of front need be only a half-inch hem—just wide enough to

hold the buttons. Plaits and tucks must be put in to correspond with other half of front.

The back is cut on doubled cloth folded lengthwise of warp.

If the waist is to open in the back, two lengths are taken off, and same instructions followed as outlined above.

The front is cut on doubled cloth, folded lengthwise of warp.

BASTING.

Baste shoulder seams together, beginning at neck, and follow seam line carefully.

Baste under-arm seams, beginning at arm's eye. If the pattern has been carefully drafted the waist lines will meet on front and back.

The 1-inch seams on pattern should be cut to ½-inch after first fitting.

Table of Measures for Front of Neck.

NECK.	INCHES.	NECK.	INCHES.
11	2	14	2¾
11½	2⅛	14½	2⅞
12	2¼	15	3
12½	2⅜	15½	3⅛
13	2½	16	3¼
13½	2⅝	16½	3⅜

Table of Measures for Back of Neck.

NECK.	INCHES.	NECK.	INCHES.
11	1¾	14	2⅛
11½	1¾	14½	2⅛
12	1⅞	15	2¼
12½	1⅞	15½	2¼
13	2	16	2⅜
13½	2	16½	2⅜

Measures:

NECK: Smooth measure at bottom of collar band.

BUST: Smooth measure around fullest part of bust, well down in front and over point of shoulder blades in back. Stand behind person when taking this measure.

WAIST: Close measure around smallest part of waist.

CHEST: From shoulder to shoulder, 1 inch below collar band.

SHOULDER: From bottom of collar band to point of shoulder.

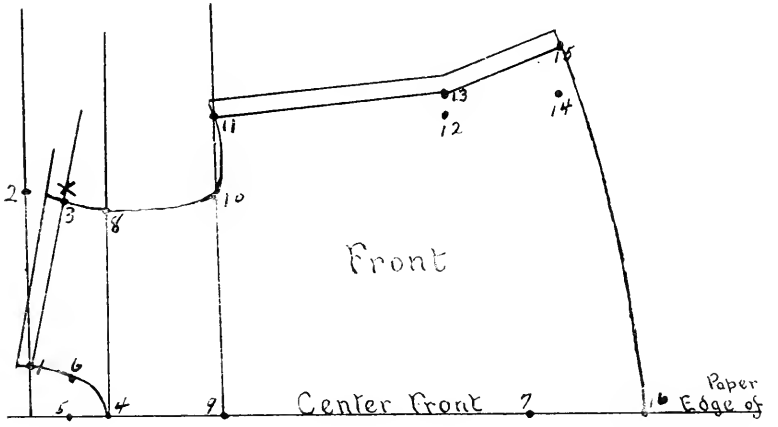
UNDER ARM: Close under arm to waist line. Do not raise the shoulder when taking this measure.

LENGTH OF FRONT: From collar band to waist line.

LENGTH OF BACK: From collar band to waist line. The difference between LENGTH of BACK and UNDER-ARM measures is usually 7 inches.

WIDTH OF BACK: Across shoulders, just above point of shoulder blades.

FRONT DRAFT.



a. Draft a right angle, using straight edge of paper for *long line*. Measure *out* on *short line* from angle 2 inches, and place dot 1

b. *Out* on *short line* from 1, SHOULDER MEASURE, place dot 2

c. 1½-inch *down* from 2 place a small cross.

d. Connect 1 and cross with straight line. On this line measure SHOULDER length, and place dot 3

e. *Down* from angle on *long line* whatever FRONT OF NECK table calls for in your size of neck, place dot.....4

f. One-half the distance between angle and 4, place dot.....5

g. 1⅝-inch *out* from 5, place dot.....6

h. *Down* from 4 on *long line* FRONT LENGTH place dot.....7

i. *Out* from 4 draw a line parallel with *short line*. On this line measure one-half CHEST measure, and place dot.....8

j. *Down* from 4 on *long line*, 4½ inches, place dot 9

k. *Out* from 9 draw a line parallel with *short line*. On this line measure one-half CHEST measure, plus ½-inch, and place dot.....10

l. Deduct WIDTH OF BACK from BUST measure. *Out* from 9 one-half this difference, place dot.....11

m. *Down* from 11 UNDER-ARM measure, place dot.....12

n. ½-inch *out* from 12, place dot.....13

o. 5 inches *down* from 13, place dot.....14

p. 2 " *out* " 14, " " 15

q. 5 " *down* " 7, " " 16

r. Connect 16 and 15 with a curved line.

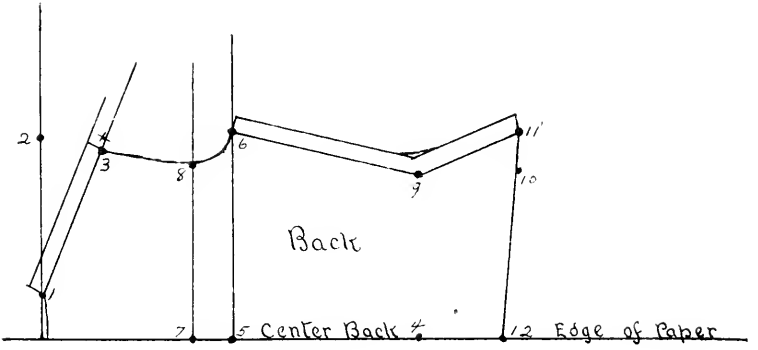
s. " 15 " 13 " straight "

t. " 13 " 11 " " "

u. " 3, 8, 10 and 11 with curved line.

v. " 1, 6 and 4 " " "

BACK DRAFT.



a. Draft a right angle, using straight edge of paper for *long line*. *Out* from angle on *short line* whatever BACK OF NECK table calls for in your size of neck, place dot 1

b. *Out* from 1, SHOULDER measure, place dot 2

c. 2½ inches *down* from 2, place small cross.

d. Connect 1 and cross with straight line. On this line measure SHOULDER length, and place dot . . . . . 3.

e. *Down* from angle LENGTH of BACK, place dot 4

f. *Up* from 4 UNDER-ARM measure, place dot 5

g. *Out* from 5 draw a line parallel with *short line*. *Out* on this line measure one-half WIDTH of BACK, plus 1½-inch, place dot 6

h. 1½-inch *up* from 5, place dot 7

i. *Out* from 7 draw a line parallel with *short line*. On this line measure one-half WIDTH of BACK, and place dot 8

j. One-fourth WAIST measure *out* from 4, plus 1 inch, place small cross.

k. Connect 6 and cross with straight line. On this line measure UNDER-ARM measure, and place dot.....9

l. 5 inches *down* from 9, place dot.....10

m. 2 " *out* " 10, " " 11

n. 5 " *down* " 4, " " 12

o. Connect 12 and 11 with straight line.

p. " 9 " 11 " " "

q. " 3, 8 and 9 with curved line.

r. Draw a curved line from 1 to ⅛-inch below angle on *long line*.

General Instructions for Shirtwaist Sleeve Draft.

In cutting out pattern, follow outside line while paper remains folded. For under part of sleeve, cut on single paper, following line from 7 through 10, 8 and 11 to 4. Allow half-inch seams along inside length of sleeve.

If more fullness is desired than plain shirt sleeve provides, lay plait in cloth along center. A smaller sleeve may be cut by laying plait along length of pattern.

A short sleeve may be cut from same pattern by folding back to any desired length and arranging fullness and height of curve at top to suit material and style.

Measures:

ARM'S EYE: Close measure around arm where it joins the body, and over tip of shoulder. Usually this measure should not exceed 15 inches.

ELBOW: Close measure around elbow with hand on shoulder. The difference between ELBOW and ARM'S EYE should be 3 inches.

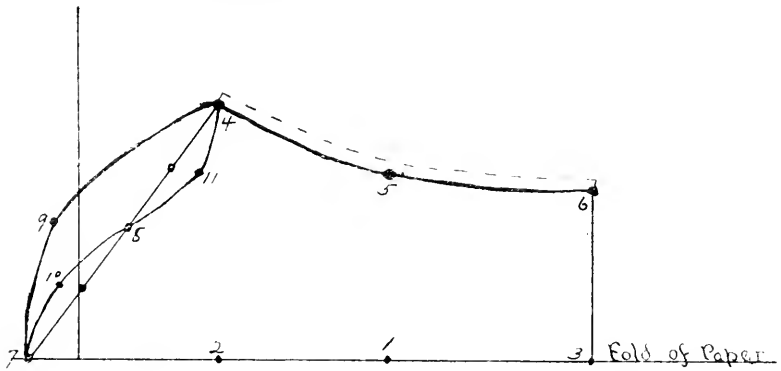
WRIST: Smooth measure around hand, about 8 inches.

SHOULDER to ELBOW: From tip of shoulder to elbow.

ELBOW to HAND: From point of elbow to hand.

INSIDE SEAM: Measure in front where arm joins body to hollow of elbow while arm is slightly bent. Be sure that this measure is long enough. Usually it is 5 inches less than SHOULDER to ELBOW measure.

SLEEVE DRAUGHT.



a. Double paper, using fold for *long line*. Draft a *short line* at right angles to *long line* three inches from top of paper. *Down* from angle SHOULDER to ELBOW measure, place dot. 1

b. *Up* from 1, INSIDE SEAM, place dot. 2

c. *Down* from 1, ELBOW to HAND, place dot. 3

d. *Out* from 2, 4 inches less than ARM'S EYE, place dot. 4

e. *Out* from 1, 4 inches less than ELBOW measure, place dot 5

f. *Out* from **3**, 2 inches less than WRIST measure, place dot 6

g. *Up* from angle, 2 inches, place dot 7

h. Connect 7 and 4 with a straight line.

i. One-half the distance between 7 and 4 place dot 8

j. 2½ inches *up* from 8 place dot 9

k. 1 inch *up* from the line half-way between **7** and 8, place dot 10

l. 1 inch *down* from the line half-way between 8 and 4, place dot 11

m. Connect 7, 9 and 4 with a curved line.

n. " 7, 10, 8, 11 and 4 with a curved line.

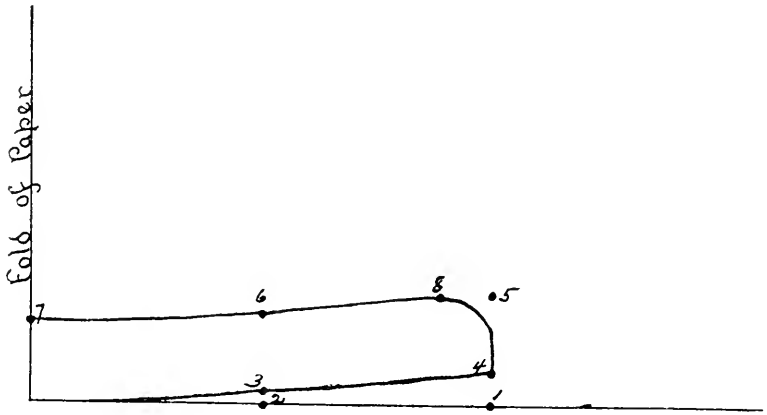
o. " 4, 5 and 6 with a curved line.

p. " 3 and 6 with a straight line.

Neck-band Draft.

Measure:

Smooth measure around neck at lower edge of collar-band. The pattern should be drafted to neck measure, allowance for seams and lap to be made on cloth when cutting.



a. Fold a piece of paper. Draft a *long line* at right angles to fold. *Down* from angle one-half length of neck-band, place dot..... 1

b. One-half the distance between angle and 1, place dot..... 2

c. ⅛-inch *out* from 2, place dot..... 3

d. ¾ " " " 1, " " 4

e. 1 " " " 4, " " 5

f. 1 " " " 3, " " 6

g. 1 " " " angle " " 7

h. ½ " *up* " 5, " " 8

i. Connect angle, 3 and 4 with a curved line.

j. " 7, 6, 8 and 4 " " "

Night-gown.

A well-fitting night-gown pattern may be developed from shirtwaist by placing the shirtwaist pattern *out* from straight edge 5 or 6 inches for fullness, and drafting straight line from under-arm point to any desired width at bottom. Measure FRONT length on straight edge representing center front, and SIDE length on the diagonal line under the arm.

It may be cut either high or low at neck, or arranged in yoke form.

Measures:

FRONT: From collar-band to floor.

SIDE: Close under arm to floor.

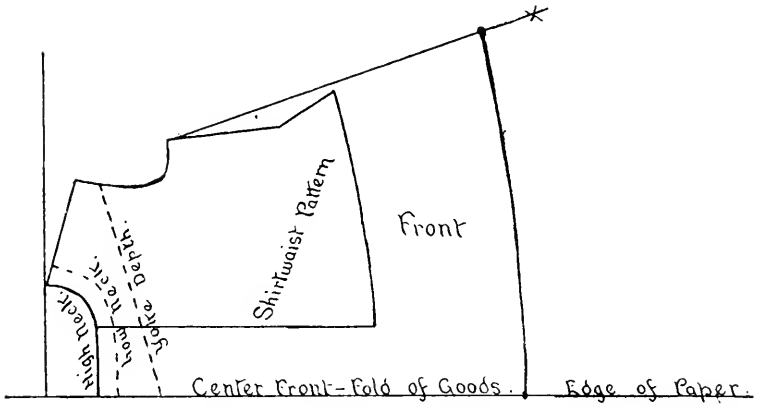
BACK: From collar-band to floor.

Widths at bottom:

Front gore, about 25 inches.

Back " " 21 "

NIGHT-GOWN DRAFT—FRONT.



The *back* is placed same as *front* except a little less fullness is required.

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